

Fiscal Note

Fiscal Services Division



HF 2262 – Fishing License Exemption on Private Property (LSB5003HV)
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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

House File 2262 eliminates the need for a person to purchase a fishing license when the owner of a pond on private land gives them permission to fish.

Background

Currently, Iowa Code section **483A.24** allows the owners and their minor-aged children to fish on the land they own without purchasing a fishing license. Other persons wanting to fish at a pond on private property must purchase a fishing license.

Assumptions

Fishing license fees are deposited in the Fish and Game Protection Fund to pay for programs related to hunting, fishing, law enforcement, and other wildlife programs within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). When there is a reduction in the number of licenses sold, this reduces the revenue to the Fish and Game Protection Fund.

The DNR does not collect information on the number of people that fish only at private ponds. Information from the 2008 Iowa Angler Survey (Responsive Management) reported that 27.0% of Iowa's licensed anglers fish on private ponds and 20.0% of licensed anglers prefer to fish at private ponds. The survey did not include unlicensed anglers.

The table below provides a range of revenue loss by using percentages. The following table lists the number of fishing licenses sold in 2015, the fee paid for the license, and the total revenue generated. The three columns to the right estimate the reduction in revenue to the Fish and Game Protection Fund using an estimated percentage reduction in the number of licenses sold.

2015 Fishing License Sales

License Description	# Sold	License Fee	Total Revenue	Estimated Reduction Percentage		
				3.0%	5.0%	10.0%
Resident Annual Fishing	236,526	\$ 19.00	\$ 4,493,994	\$ 134,820	\$ 224,700	\$ 449,399
Resident 3-Year Fishing	5,212	53.00	276,236	8,287	13,812	27,624
Resident 1-Day Fishing	2,874	9.50	27,303	819	1,365	2,730
Resident 7-Day Fishing	1,145	13.50	15,458	464	773	1,546
Resident Fishing/Hunting Combination	45,254	47.00	2,126,938	63,808	106,347	212,694
Nonresident Annual Fishing	17,855	41.00	732,055	21,962	36,603	73,206
Nonresident 1-Day Fishing	12,851	10.50	134,936	4,048	6,747	13,494
Nonresident 3-Day Fishing	11,750	17.50	205,625	6,169	10,281	20,563
Nonresident 7-Day Fishing	2,091	32.00	66,912	2,007	3,346	6,691
Totals	335,558		\$ 8,079,456	\$ 242,384	\$ 403,973	\$ 807,946

Fiscal Impact

There is no impact to the State General Fund. The reduction in fishing license revenue to the Fish and Game Protection Fund is estimated as follows: \$243,000 if there is a 3.0% reduction; \$404,000 if there is a 5.0% reduction; and \$808,000 if there is a 10.0% reduction in fishing license sales for calendar year 2017.

Correctional Impact

The correctional impact is expected to be minimal.

Sources

Department of Natural Resources

2008 Iowa Angler Survey (Responsive Management)

2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation – Iowa

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

February 18, 2016

The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.
